

Weekly Compilation of
**Presidential
Documents**



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Editor's Note: The President was in Okinawa, Japan, on July 21, the closing date of this issue. Releases and announcements issued by the Office of the Press Secretary but not received in time for inclusion in this issue will be printed next week.

WEEKLY COMPILATION OF

PRESIDENTIAL DOCUMENTS

Published every Monday by the Office of the Federal Register, National Archives and Records Administration, Washington, DC 20408, the *Weekly Compilation of Presidential Documents* contains statements, messages, and other Presidential materials released by the White House during the preceding week.

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Week Ending Friday, July 21, 2000

**Statement on Senate Action on
Legislation To Provide Permanent
Funding To Protect Critical Lands**

July 14, 2000

I am pleased that a bipartisan agreement was reached today in the Senate on legislation to provide permanent funding to protect critical lands across America. We have before us an historic opportunity to build a truly enduring conservation endowment. I commend Senator Bingaman and Senator Murkowski for their leadership in moving us closer to that goal. I am committed to working with Congress in the bipartisan spirit reflected in today's agreement so that future generations will have the resources to protect precious lands, from city parks to threatened farmland to our grandest natural treasures.

NOTE: This item was not received in time for publication in the appropriate issue.

**Statement on House of
Representatives Action on Foreign
Operations Appropriations
Legislation**

July 14, 2000

Yesterday the House of Representatives passed a foreign operations bill which includes certain positive elements but is nonetheless deeply flawed. I am pleased that members of both parties joined together to support debt relief for the poorest of the poor nations, as illustrated by the vote on Representative Maxine Waters amendment. While this is an encouraging step, I urge Congress to build on this support by fully funding my request for debt reduction to fully implement the landmark Cologne debt initiative. I am also pleased that a majority in the House supports our efforts to halt the global spread of AIDS. In Africa, AIDS is a leading cause of death and is undermining

decades of effort to reduce mortality, improve health, expand educational opportunities, and lift people out of poverty.

However, it is unfortunate and unacceptable that this bill fails to provide the resources necessary to support our efforts to keep building peace and stability around the world. The House bill imposes deep, untenable cuts to U.S. contributions to multilateral development banks, including the International Development Association which provides loans for the world's neediest countries in areas like health, clean water supplies, education, and other infrastructure needed for lasting poverty reduction. It is counterproductive to slash development loans that are aimed at lifting the world's poorest nations from poverty, as they reform their social and economic policies, while providing debt relief to these same nations for the same purpose. To do so undermines efforts to lift these countries from deepest poverty and sends them in the wrong direction just when they are working to reverse the devastating spread of AIDS among their people. This bill also denies funding for other multilateral development banks, including draining resources from efforts to encourage developing nations to promote sound environmental policy. We must support the efforts of multilateral development banks, and we must fully fund our obligation to debt relief for the world's poorest nations.

This bill includes deep cuts in military assistance for nations working with the United States to advance stability; in particular, it would drain essential funds necessary to support Mid-East peace. It also cuts funding from the Ex-Im bank which supports the export of American products overseas.

Support for combating terrorism and nuclear proliferation is inadequate. This bill fails to provide sufficient resources for work with scientists of other nations to reduce the threat of nuclear proliferation, and it denies funds to an administration initiative for anti-

terrorism security training. By significantly cutting my request for funds to support Eastern Europe and voluntary peacekeeping, the bill also fails to provide the resources needed to implement a lasting peace in Kosovo and the Balkans and to bring our troops home from that region as quickly as possible.

In addition, Congress should not maintain the unnecessary restrictions on international family planning. We should not impose limitations on foreign nongovernmental organizations' use of their own money or their ability to participate in the democratic process in their own country. The bill also fails to provide sufficient funding for international family planning and other USAID development activities, thereby inhibiting our efforts to increase development assistance to Africa and Latin America. As this bill moves forward, I call on Congress to address the numerous and serious problems in it and to produce a foreign operations bill I can sign.

NOTE: This item was not received in time for publication in the appropriate issue.

Proclamation 7330—Captive Nations Week, 2000

July 14, 2000

*By the President of the United States
of America*

A Proclamation

When President Eisenhower signed the first Captive Nations Week Proclamation in 1959, the fate of freedom around the world was still far from certain. While the United States and our Allies had defeated Adolf Hitler and the Axis Powers in World War II, a partitioned Berlin stood as a bleak symbol of a divided Europe, and millions throughout Asia, Africa, and South America continued to suffer under communist and authoritarian regimes.

Today, as we embark on a new century, democracy is on the rise across the globe. More than half the world's people live under governments of their own choosing. The Iron Curtain has been lifted, allowing the light of liberty into the nations of Central and Eastern Europe. Democratic rule has swept through the countries of Latin America, re-

placing abusive military regimes with elected civilian governments. And in Africa and Asia, many nations have finally gained independence.

This rising tide of freedom is no accident of history; it was achieved through the courage, determination, and sacrifice of millions of men and women here in America and in captive nations around the world. Whether speaking out in the halls of the United Nations for those silenced by oppressive regimes, standing guard through frigid nights on the DMZ in Korea, or sharing the fruits of liberty through the Peace Corps, generations of Americans have made sure that our country is an ally and source of hope for all people yearning for freedom and dignity. Around the globe, freedom-loving people have risked and often sacrificed their lives to end oppression, whether uniting against tyranny through the Solidarity movement in Poland or defying intimidation and violence to vote in free elections in El Salvador and Nicaragua.

The tide keeps turning toward democracy, human rights, and free market economies. Yet there remain tyrants who use brutality, ethnic cleansing, guns, and prisons to silence voices of reason and tolerance within their countries. As a Nation born of the ideals of freedom, justice, and human dignity, America has a solemn obligation to continue speaking out on behalf of these still-captive nations and their people and lend them our support. We draw strength for this task from the knowledge that our cause is right and inspiration from the people of former captive nations who are flourishing today.

The Congress, by Joint Resolution approved July 17, 1959 (73 Stat. 212), has authorized and requested the President to issue a proclamation designating the third week in July of each year as "Captive Nations Week."

Now, Therefore, I, William J. Clinton, President of the United States of America, do hereby proclaim July 16 through July 22, 2000, as Captive Nations Week. I call upon the people of the United States to observe this week with appropriate ceremonies and activities and to rededicate ourselves to the principles of freedom, human rights, and self-determination for all the peoples of the world.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand this fourteenth day of July, in the year of our Lord two thousand, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and twenty-fifth.

William J. Clinton

[Filed with the Office of the Federal Register, 8:45 a.m., July 18, 2000]

NOTE: This proclamation was published in the *Federal Register* on July 19. This item was not received in time for publication in the appropriate issue.

Letter to Congressional Leaders on Review of Title III of the Cuban Liberty and Democratic Solidarity (LIBERTAD) Act of 1996

July 14, 2000

Dear _____:

Pursuant to subsection 306(c)(2) of the Cuban Liberty and Democratic Solidarity (LIBERTAD) Act of 1996 (Public Law 104-114), (the "Act"), I hereby determine and report to the Congress that suspension for 6 months beyond August 1, 2000, of the right to bring an action under title III of the Act is necessary to the national interests of the United States and will expedite a transition to democracy in Cuba.

Sincerely,

William J. Clinton

NOTE: Identical letters were sent to Jesse Helms, chairman, and Joseph R. Biden, Jr., ranking member, Senate Committee on Foreign Relations; Ted Stevens, chairman, and Robert C. Byrd, ranking member, Senate Committee on Appropriations; Benjamin A. Gilman, chairman, and Sam Gejdenson, ranking member, House Committee on International Relations; and C.W. Bill Young, chairman, and David R. Obey, ranking member, House Committee on Appropriations. This item was not received in time for publication in the appropriate issue.

The President's Radio Address

July 15, 2000

Good morning. Today I want to talk about what we as a nation must do to keep our

economic expansion going and extend its benefits to every American.

For more than 7 years now, our Nation has followed a course of fiscal discipline that has paid tremendous dividends for the American people. We made tough choices, cut our deficits, paid down our debt. We've strengthened and extended the life of Social Security and Medicare. And we made the investments that matter most for America's future in education, in health care, in the environment, in science and technology, and in targeted tax cuts.

But in recent weeks, the Republicans in Congress have done an about-face on our strategy of fiscal discipline. Having already passed more than half a trillion dollars in reckless tax cuts, this week they passed a fiscally irresponsible plan to repeal the entire estate tax. Its costs would explode to \$750 billion after 10 years. And every year fully half its benefits would go to just 3,000 families.

But they haven't been able to provide an affordable Medicare prescription drug benefit for tens of millions of Americans. They haven't been able to add even a day to the life of Social Security or Medicare. They haven't done anything new to improve our schools, increase the minimum wage, expand health insurance coverage for children or parents whose children have coverage, or even to pass a meaningful Patients' Bill of Rights. And now they seem ready to give up on our bipartisan plan to use Social Security and Medicare surpluses for debt reduction. All these actions are serving special interests, not our national interest.

As we look to the future, if we want to keep this economic expansion going, we have got to keep fiscal discipline at the forefront. That's why I want to stay on track to pay off our national debt by 2012. That's why we should dedicate Social Security surpluses to paying down the debt and use savings from debt reduction to extend the life of Social Security to 2057. Also, I support Vice President Gore's proposal to take Medicare funds out of the budget as well, and to use savings from debt reduction to help extend the life of the Medicare Trust Fund out beyond 2030.

Now, their plan would take all of our projected surplus and spend it all for tax cuts and for the cost of privatizing partially the Social Security system and other spending. Let me ask you something. If someone asked you to sign a contract committing you to spend every penny of your projected earnings for the next 10 years, would you do it? Unfortunately, that's what the congressional Republicans want us to do. Most of us would not sign away money we don't have, and neither should America.

That's why I've proposed setting aside \$500 billion as a reserve for America's future, so we can have a national discussion of our priorities and so we're prepared for a rainy day. If we do it responsibly, we'll still have the resources to meet key needs of American families. We can increase our investments in education and health care. We can have the right kind of targeted tax cuts to help Americans modernize our schools, send our children to college, care for sick family members, pay for child care. And we can offer every older American the option of affordable, dependable prescription drug benefits through Medicare.

There's a growing consensus, in the Senate and all across America, that we need a real Medicare prescription drug benefit, not a flawed private insurance program that even the insurance companies admit won't work. I also think we can agree to protect our hard-fought fiscal discipline by pledging to use Medicare surpluses only for debt reduction, as Vice President Gore has urged. I hope Republicans and Democrats would start from there and move forward together on America's other priorities.

In that spirit, I've reached out to Congress and said that if they'll agree to pass a plan that offers affordable Medicare prescription drug coverage to all seniors and people with disabilities, while protecting our hard-won fiscal discipline, I will sign a marriage penalty relief law.

As yet, the Republican leaders have not yet responded to the Nation's call for a real prescription drug plan. But it's not too late to put progress over partisanship. The American people know what they need, a Medicare prescription drug benefit, investments in health and education, and targeted tax cuts

that don't take us off the path of fiscal discipline and debt reduction.

Some people here in Washington already are looking ahead to election day. But let's not get ahead of ourselves. We did not reach this moment of prosperity by accident, but we could lose it through inattention. Remember, how a nation deals with prosperity is just as stern a test of its judgment and values as how it deals with adversity. If we fail that test, the losers won't be political parties or special interests; they'll be our children and our future. But if we succeed, America's best days are still ahead.

Thanks for listening.

NOTE: The address was recorded at 6:46 p.m. on July 14 at Camp David, MD, for broadcast at 10:06 a.m. on July 15. The transcript was made available by the Office of the Press Secretary on July 14 but was embargoed for release until the broadcast.

Excerpt of an Interview With Michael Kramer of the New York Daily News

July 16, 2000

Middle East Peace Summit

Mr. Kramer. How's it going?

The President. I'm more optimistic than I was when they got here. This is really important. We might make it. I don't know. God it's hard. It's like nothing I've ever dealt with—all the negotiations with the Irish, all the stuff I've done with the Palestinians before this and with the Israelis, the Balkans at Dayton. What's really troubling is that they know if they make a peace agreement half of their constituencies will have to be angry at them for a while. But I would be totally misleading if I said I had an inkling that a deal is at hand. That's just not true. But we're slogging.

Group of Eight Summit

Mr. Kramer. Will you leave for Japan on Wednesday?

The President. I hope so. I'm gonna do my best to finish here. There's been some progress, but I can't say I know we'll succeed. They're trying. It's so hard. My heart goes

out to them. It's really hard. It's the hardest thing I've ever seen.

NOTE: The interview began at approximately 5:20 p.m. The President spoke by telephone from Camp David, MD. A tape was not available for verification of the content of this excerpt.

Statement Announcing Funding for Research on the Prevention and Treatment of Alzheimer's Disease

July 16, 2000

Earlier this week, we learned that there has been exciting new progress in our quest to understand the root cause of and to possibly prevent Alzheimer's disease. In the absence of successful efforts to prevent and treat Alzheimer's disease, the number of our citizens afflicted with this devastating condition will more than triple over the next 50 years—from 4 to 14 million Americans.

Today I am pleased to announce that the National Institutes of Health, through the National Institute on Aging, will dedicate \$50 million to new research on the prevention and treatment of Alzheimer's disease, with a particular emphasis on the development of a vaccine to prevent the disease. This research, which builds on the encouraging findings reported this week at the World Alzheimer's Congress 2000, provides new hope not only for Americans who are at risk for developing Alzheimer's disease in the future but for those who are already in its early stages.

It is more clear than ever that the Nation must continue its strong bipartisan support for biomedical research on the causes, treatments, and cures for Alzheimer's disease and other diseases affecting millions of Americans. Our public investment has and will continue to yield extraordinary advances in treatment. However, these treatments will not be available or affordable to millions of older Americans and people with disabilities if the Congress does not pass a meaningful Medicare prescription drug benefit this year.

I am pleased that there is growing bipartisan support for a real Medicare drug benefit—not a flawed private insurance model. Just as we have worked in a bipartisan manner to support biomedical research, we must

do so for a long overdue Medicare prescription drug benefit.

Memorandum on the 2000 Combined Federal Campaign of the National Capital Area

July 14, 2000

Heads of Executive Departments and Agencies

Subject: 2000 Combined Federal Campaign of the National Capital Area

I am delighted that the Secretary of Transportation Rodney E. Slater has agreed to serve as the Chair of the 2000 Combined Federal Campaign of the National Capital Area. I ask you to enthusiastically support the CFC by personally chairing the campaign in your agency and appointing a top official as your vice chair.

The Combined Federal Campaign is an important way for Federal employees to support thousands of worthy charities. Public servants not only contribute to the campaign but also assume leadership roles to ensure its success.

Your personal support and enthusiasm will help positively influence thousands of employees and will guarantee another successful campaign.

William J. Clinton

NOTE: This memorandum was released by the Office of the Press Secretary on July 17. An original was available for verification of the content of this memorandum.

Statement on the Community Reinvestment Act

July 17, 2000

The Community Reinvestment Act is helping to increase homeownership, create new jobs and businesses, and rebuild our country's inner cities and rural areas. Today's Federal Reserve Bank study of banks' and thrifts' CRA lending confirms that these loans are profitable and bring other benefits to banks as well. In part due to CRA, many banks and

thrifths have shown commitment and innovation in putting capital into the hands of individuals and into the communities that need it most. I am deeply committed to keeping CRA strong and effective to help do more to meet the needs of those not fully participating in our Nation's prosperity.

Statement on the German Agreement To Compensate Victims of Nazi Slave and Forced Labor

July 17, 2000

In Berlin today the German Government and German companies signed an agreement that will lead to payments to victims of Nazi slave and forced labor. This important and generous act will bring comfort and some measure of justice to surviving victims of the Nazi era. It is a fitting capstone to the 20th century and a cornerstone for a 21st century of peace and tolerance. I welcome the signing of this historic agreement and commend the German Government and companies for their responsibility and courage. I also applaud Chancellor Schroeder, Deputy Treasury Secretary Eizenstat, and German negotiator Lambsdorff for their leadership and perseverance in bringing us to this point.

Letter to Congressional Leaders Transmitting a Report on Iraq's Compliance With United Nations Security Council Resolutions

July 17, 2000

Dear Mr. Speaker: (Dear Mr. President:)

Consistent with the Authorization for Use of Military Force Against Iraq Resolution (Public Law 102-1 as amended by Public Law 106-113) and as part of my effort to keep the Congress fully informed, I am reporting on the status of efforts to obtain Iraq's compliance with the resolutions adopted by the United Nations Security Council. I shall continue to keep the Congress informed about this important issue.

Sincerely,

William J. Clinton

NOTE: Identical letters were sent to J. Dennis Hastert, Speaker of the House of Representatives, and Strom Thurmond, President pro tempore of the Senate. This letter was released by the Office of the Press Secretary on July 18.

Message to the Congress Transmitting a Report on the National Emergency With Respect to the Taliban

July 17, 2000

To the Congress of the United States:

As required by section 401(c) of the National Emergencies Act, 50 U.S.C. 1641(c), and section 204(c) of the International Emergency Economic Powers Act (IEEPA), 50 U.S.C. 1703(c), I transmit herewith a 6-month periodic report on the national emergency with respect to the Taliban (Afghanistan) that was declared in Executive Order 13129 of July 4, 1999.

William J. Clinton

The White House,
July 17, 2000.

NOTE: This message was released by the Office of the Press Secretary on July 18.

Statement on Marriage Penalty Tax Legislation

July 18, 2000

While I strongly support targeted marriage penalty relief, the marriage penalty bill put forth by the majority in Congress is one part of a fiscally irresponsible, poorly targeted, and regressive tax plan. If this strategy succeeds, more benefits will go to the top one percent of taxpayers than to the bottom 80 percent of all Americans, while ignoring tax cuts I have proposed for college tuition, long-term care, savings, and child care. By itself, I would veto this bill. In the spirit of bipartisanship, however, I am willing to accept marriage penalty relief on this scale if Congress passes a plan that preserves the Medicare surplus to pay down the debt and passes a plan that gives real, voluntary Medicare prescription drug coverage that is available and affordable for all seniors. This is the best way

to break the partisan logjam and help the tens of millions of older Americans across this country who face rising prescription drug costs.

Statement on the Japan-United States Agreement on Interconnection Rates

July 18, 2000

This important agreement on interconnection rates will help further reduce regulatory barriers to trade between the United States and Japan. It will level the playing field for America's cutting edge technologies and increase the number of Japanese consumers connected to the Internet. It's a win-win for the United States and Japan and represents an important step as we prepare to discuss the impact of information technology on the global economy at the G-7/G-8 summit.

Statement on the Death of Senator Paul Coverdell

July 18, 2000

Hillary and I were deeply saddened to learn of the death of Senator Paul Coverdell.

Paul Coverdell spent a lifetime serving the people of Georgia and our country. He was a tireless advocate who worked to ensure that children have access to quality education. And he was a leader in America's war against drugs. As Director of the Peace Corps, he proudly carried America's spirit of volunteerism around the world.

I join all Americans in honoring Paul Coverdell for his years of service as a soldier, a public servant, and a statesman. Our thoughts and prayers are with his wife, Nancy, his family, and his many friends.

Remarks on Departure for Okinawa, Japan, and an Exchange With Reporters in Thurmont, Maryland

July 20, 2000

Middle East Peace Summit

The President. As all of you know, for the past 9 days we have been engaged in the

most comprehensive and thorough negotiations ever between Palestinians and Israelis on the core issues of their 52-year conflict. The two parties have been making an intensive effort to resolve their differences over the most difficult issues. The gaps remain substantial, but there has been progress, and we must all be prepared to go the extra mile.

After a round of intensive consultations this evening, the parties agreed to stay at Camp David while I travel to Okinawa for the G-8 summit. Mr. Lockhart will be able to fill you in on the details of how this occurred. I have to take the plane, and I'm running late, but I do want him to explain what happened.

During the time I am gone, Secretary Albright will be working with the parties, and we'll continue to try to close the gaps. Upon my return, I will assess the status of the talks.

There should be no illusion about the difficult task ahead, but there should be no limit to the effort we're prepared to make. These are in fundamental ways the hardest peace issues I have ever dealt with, but the short answer to why we're still here after everybody thought we were through is that nobody wanted to give up. After all these years, as hard as these issues are, they don't want to give up. And I didn't think we should give up, and so we're still plugging away.

But you should draw no inference from this. I will observe the news blackout on the details and will continue to do it, but this is really, really hard.

Thank you very much.

Q. Mr. President, could you say one thing about your personal involvement here, what you have invested here personally over the past 9 days, and what it was that led you to conclude that this phase of the summit is not going to pan out as you had hoped?

The President. Well, I don't know that it won't now. I think anything I would say about that would in some way or another violate the prohibitions we have had. I have respected that rigorously. I have asked the other members of the parties to do so. And I just think any characterization or description beyond what I told you—we all thought it was over, at least now that—and then we

discovered that nobody wanted to quit. Nobody wanted to give up. And that should be encouraging.

Thank you.

NOTE: The President spoke at 12:45 a.m. at Thurmont Elementary School.

Statement on the Tokyo Group of Eight Meeting

July 20, 2000

At today's unprecedented meeting in Tokyo, G-8 leaders met with leaders from developing nations and representatives from the private sector and international development institutions. While I regret that I was unable to participate, I look forward to hearing from Secretary Summers and my G-8 colleagues about the discussion and working to ensure that everyone benefits from the global economy.

Building on last year's Cologne debt initiative, the Okinawa summit will create a framework to fight infectious disease, increase access to basic education, and expand opportunity through information technology. Despite a stronger global economy, too many people around the world live every day without essential health care, basic literacy, or the opportunity to share in the benefits of modern technology. I am committed to continuing to work closely with America's partners in the G-8 and the developing world to address these issues, reduce poverty, fight infectious disease, and increase opportunity for all.

Message to the Congress Transmitting the District of Columbia Budget Request

July 20, 2000

To the Congress of the United States:

In accordance with section 202(c) of the District of Columbia Financial Management and Responsibility Assistance Act of 1995 and section 446 of the District of Columbia Self-Governmental Reorganization Act as amended in 1989, I am transmitting the District of Columbia's Fiscal Year 2001 Budget Request Act.

The proposed FY 2001 Budget reflects the major programmatic objectives of the Mayor, the Council of the District of Columbia, and the District of Columbia Financial Responsibility and Management Assistance Authority. For FY 2001, the District estimates revenue of \$5.718 billion and total expenditures of \$5.714 billion, resulting in a budget surplus of \$4.128 million.

My transmittal of the District of Columbia's budget, as required by law, does not represent an endorsement of its contents.

William J. Clinton

The White House,
July 20, 2000.

NOTE: An original was not available for verification of the content of this message.

Remarks at National Peace Memorial Park in Okinawa, Japan

July 21, 2000

First, let me thank the Governor and the other distinguished officials from Okinawa; the family members of those whose names are on this memorial; the distinguished veterans; ladies and gentlemen. I think I should begin by saying that in as much as we are here to talk about the future as well as the past, I think we should give another round of applause to Machika. She did a fine job and was a great credit to the students of this island. *[Applause]*

I am very honored to be the first American President to visit Okinawa in 40 years. This week our partners from the G-8 will come here to speak many words about the future. I wanted to come first to this place that speaks so powerfully in silence about the past, to remember those who lost their lives here, to honor what must have been their last wish, that no future generation ever be forced to share their experience or repeat their sacrifice.

The battle of Okinawa itself lasted more than 80 days. More than 100,000 Japanese soldiers died—or almost 100,000. More than 10,000 American soldiers. But the heaviest tragedy by far fell on the people of Okinawa themselves: One-third of the civilian population lost; 90 percent of those who survived

left homeless. Every life lost was a life like yours and mine, a life with family and friends, with love and hopes and dreams, a life that in a better world would have run its full course. I thank, especially, the family members of the Okinawans who died, for meeting me here at the memorial today.

The battle of Okinawa was warfare at its most tragic. But this monument built in its memory is humanity at its most inspired; for here, no grief goes unrecognized. And while most monuments remember only those who have fallen from one side, this memorial recognizes those from all sides and those who took no side. Therefore, it is more than a war memorial. It is a monument to the tragedy of all war, reminding us of our common responsibility to prevent such destruction from ever happening again.

Over the past 50 years, our two nations have come together in this spirit to meet that responsibility. The strength of our alliance is one of the great stories of the 20th century. Asia is largely at peace today because our alliance has given people throughout the region confidence that peace will be defended and preserved. That is what alliances are for, and that is why ours must endure.

Of course, Okinawa has played an especially vital role in the endurance of our alliance. I know the people of Okinawa did not ask to play this role, hosting more than 50 percent of America's forces in Japan on less than one percent of Japan's land mass. I heard what the Governor said, and we had the opportunity to discuss this as we walked through the memorial. I have tried hard to understand the concerns of the people here. Five years ago we began a process of consolidating our bases here. Together, we agreed on 27 specific steps, over half of which are already completed.

Today, Governor, I want to reaffirm to you and the people of Okinawa, we will keep all our commitments, and we will continue to do what we can to reduce our footprint on this island. We take seriously our responsibility to be good neighbors, and it is unacceptable to the United States when we do not meet that responsibility.

In the meantime, there is more that we can do together to bring the benefits of peace and prosperity to this part of Japan. I want

the world to see Okinawa not just as a battle in the past but as *bankoku shinryo*, a bridge between nations; appropriately, the very name of the conference center in which we are meeting this week.

Five centuries ago, during the golden age of the Sho dynasty, the land served as a crossroads for all trade that flowed through Asia. In the information age of the 21st century, Okinawa again can be a crossroads and a gateway between Japan and the rest of the world. In the past year, 3 American Fortune 500 companies have followed more than 20 Japanese information technology companies in opening operations here.

So here I say, because we have our friends from the media here, to people in the United States, in Europe, and all over the world, who will see this magnificent place on television tonight: Okinawa is a good place; come here and help the people build the future.

I am especially pleased to be here in the same year that Ryukyu University celebrates its 50th anniversary, proud that the United States played a leading role in its creation, equally proud that so many young Okinawans studied in the United States through the Garioa and Fulbright programs. In that great tradition, it is my honor to announce today that the United States and Japan will create a new scholarship program to send young Okinawan graduate students to the prestigious East-West Center in Hawaii. And we dedicate this program to the memory of my good friend, your late Prime Minister, Keizo Obuchi. May it add to the friendship and understanding between our nations that he worked so hard to advance.

This week Prime Minister Mori is bringing the partners of the G-8 to Okinawa to find ways to close the gap between the wealthiest and poorest nations of the world and, within nations, between the wealthiest and poorest areas. The message of hope and reconciliation embodied in this beautiful memorial and the remarkable friendship forged by the United States and Japan give us hope that we can build bridges over all the troubled waters of the new century that still keep too many people from the joys and possibilities that should be everyone's birthright.

In 1879 Sho Tai, the last King of the Ryukyus, left Shuri Castle for the last time.

One of his final acts as king was to read a poem that summed up his hope for the future. Today, his words speak to us across the generations: *Ikusa-yun sumachi. Miruku-un yagate*. "The time for wars is ending. The time for peace is not far away. Do not despair. Life itself is a treasure." May Sho Tai's words guide our friendship and our work in the months and years to come.

Governor, I thank you for your remarks and your leadership here. In the end, the words of Sho Tai, if we can make them real in our time, is the very highest tribute we can pay to all those people whose names are on this magnificent memorial.

Thank you very much.

NOTE: The President spoke at 10:45 a.m. at the Cornerstone of Peace in the park. In his remarks, he referred to Gov. Keiichi Inamine of Okinawa; Machika Kawamitsu, student, who introduced the President; and Prime Minister Yoshiro Mori of Japan. A tape was not available for verification of the content of these remarks.

Exchange With Reporters Prior to Discussions With President Vladimir Putin of Russia in Okinawa

July 21, 2000

Middle East Peace Summit

Q. Mr. President, are you more optimistic today about the prospects for a Middle East peace settlement?

The President. All I can tell you is that they're still talking, and consistent with our rules, I'm still not talking. [*Laughter*] But I'm hopeful.

National Missile Defense System

Q. Mr. President, are the two of you going to be talking about missile defense here today?

The President. I'm sure we will. We talked about it last month in Moscow, and I'm sure we'll talk about it.

NOTE: The exchange began at 6:20 p.m. at the Busena Terrace Hotel. A tape was not available for verification of the content of this exchange.

Russia-United States Joint Statement on Cooperation on Strategic Stability *July 21, 2000*

The United States and Russia underscore that continued strengthening of global stability and international security is one of the most important tasks today. The Joint Statement on Principles of Strategic Stability, adopted in Moscow on June 4, 2000, establishes a constructive basis for progress in further reducing nuclear weapons arsenals, preserving and strengthening the ABM Treaty and confronting new challenges to international security.

The United States and Russia have begun intensified discussions on the earliest entry into force of the START II Treaty, on further reductions in strategic forces within the framework of a future START III Treaty and on ABM issues.

The United States and Russia are dedicated to the search for new ways of cooperation to control the spread of missiles and missile technology. They will work together on a new mechanism to supplement the Missile Technology Control Regime. This mechanism would integrate the Russian proposal for a Global Monitoring System, the U.S. proposal for a missile code of conduct, as well as the mechanisms of the Missile Technology Control Regime, which the United States and Russia will continue to strengthen. They are prepared to expand their discussions of issues related to the threat of proliferation of missiles and missile technology.

The United States and Russia reaffirm their commitment to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons as the foundation of the international nuclear non-proliferation and nuclear disarmament regime. They will work to ensure early entry into force of the Comprehensive Nuclear Test Ban Treaty (CTBT), and seek to expand cooperation related to the CTBT to promote mutually beneficial technical exchanges that will facilitate implementation of the CTBT after its entry into force.

Broadening their cooperation for the purpose of strengthening stability, the United States and Russia will apply their efforts toward creating, and placing into operation within the year, a joint U.S.-Russian center

for exchange of data from early warning systems and notification of launches. They will seek to complete work on an agreement on pre-launch notification for launches of ballistic missiles and space launch vehicles, and on principles for opening this system to the voluntary participation of all interested countries.

The United States and Russia are prepared to renew and expand their cooperation in the area of theater missile defenses, and consider the possibility of involving other states.

The Presidents of the United States and Russia have agreed that officials will meet in the near future to coordinate their activities in this area.

Russia and the United States call upon the other nations of the G-8 and all other nations of the world to unite their efforts to strengthen strategic stability.

NOTE: An original was not available for verification of the content of this joint statement.

Digest of Other White House Announcements

The following list includes the President's public schedule and other items of general interest announced by the Office of the Press Secretary and not included elsewhere in this issue.

July 15

Throughout the day, the President participated in the Middle East Peace Summit at Camp David, MD.

In the evening, the President had a working dinner with Prime Minister Ehud Barak of Israel and Chairman Yasser Arafat of the Palestinian Authority. Later, he met with his foreign policy team.

July 16

In the afternoon, the President met with members of the Israeli and Palestinian negotiating teams, and later, he met with members of his foreign policy team.

In the evening, the President met separately with Chairman Arafat and Prime Minister Barak.

July 17

In the morning, the President met with his foreign policy team, and in the afternoon, he met with Prime Minister Barak. Later, he met again with his foreign policy team.

In the evening, the President met with Chairman Arafat and twice with Prime Minister Barak.

July 18

In the morning, the President met with Chairman Arafat.

In the evening, the President met separately with Prime Minister Barak and Chairman Arafat.

The President announced his intention to nominate Seymour Martin Lipset to be a member of the U.S. Institute of Peace.

The President announced his intention to appoint Frances B. Craig to serve on the Advisory Committee on Expanding Training Opportunities.

July 19

In the morning, the President met with his foreign policy team, and later, he met separately with Chairman Arafat and Prime Minister Barak.

In the early evening, the President had a telephone conversation with Prime Minister Barak, and later, he met again with Chairman Arafat. In addition to the meetings, the President had several telephone conversations with Middle East leaders apprising them of the status of negotiations.

Throughout the evening, the President met several more times with the Chairman and the Prime Minister until shortly after midnight, when he traveled to Okinawa, Japan.

July 20

The President announced his intention to appoint D. David Eisenhower, Alfred Geduldig, Susan B. Harris, and Rocco C. Siciliano as members of the Dwight D. Eisenhower Memorial Commission.

The President announced his intention to appoint Peter A. Seligmann as a member of the Enterprise for the Americas Board.

July 21

In the morning, the President arrived in Okinawa.

In the afternoon, the President participated in a G-7 meeting in the Conference Hall at the Bankoku Shinryokan convention center.

In the evening, the President attended a G-8 working dinner in the Reception Hall at the Bankoku Shinryokan convention center.

Nominations Submitted to the Senate

The following list does not include promotions of members of the Uniformed Services, nominations to the Service Academies, or nominations of Foreign Service officers.

Submitted July 17

Norman Y. Mineta,
of California, to be Secretary of Commerce,
vice William M. Daley.

Submitted July 18

Seymour Martin Lipset,
of Virginia, to be a member of the Board
of Directors of the U.S. Institute of Peace
for a term expiring January 19, 2003 (re-
appointment).

Submitted July 20

Andrew Fois,
of the District of Columbia, to be an Asso-
ciate Judge of the Superior Court of the Dis-
trict of Columbia for the term of 15 years,
vice Eugene N. Hamilton, term expiring.

Miguel D. Lausell,
of Puerto Rico, to be a member of the Board
of Directors of the Overseas Private Invest-
ment Corporation for a term expiring De-
cember 17, 2000, vice John Chrystal

Miguel D. Lausell,
of Puerto Rico, to be a member of the Board
of Directors of the Overseas Private Invest-
ment Corporation for a term expiring De-
cember 17, 2003 (reappointment).

Submitted July 21

Susan Ritchie Bolton,
of Arizona, to be U.S. District Judge for the
District of Arizona, vice a new position cre-
ated by Public Law 106-113, approved No-
vember 29, 1999.

Mary H. Murguia,
of Arizona, to be U.S. District Judge for the
District of Arizona (new position).

James A. Teilborg,
of Arizona, to be U.S. District Judge for the
District of Arizona (new position).

George A. Omas,
of Mississippi, to be a Commissioner of the
Postal Rate Commission for a term expiring
October 14, 2006 (reappointment).

Checklist of White House Press Releases

The following list contains releases of the Office
of the Press Secretary that are neither printed as
items nor covered by entries in the Digest of
Other White House Announcements.

Released July 16

Transcripts of press briefings by Press Sec-
retary Joe Lockhart

Released July 17

Transcripts of press briefings by Press Sec-
retary Joe Lockhart

Transcript of a press briefing by Deputy Na-
tional Security Adviser for International Eco-
nomic Affairs Lael Brainard and Deputy Na-
tional Security Adviser Jim Steinberg on the
President's upcoming participation in the
Group of Eight summit in Japan

Statement by the Press Secretary: Adminis-
tration Updates, Encryption Export Policy

Released July 18

Transcripts of press briefings by Press Sec-
retary Joe Lockhart

Statement by the Press Secretary on Title III of the Cuban Liberty and Democratic Solidarity Act

Statement by Council of Economic Advisers Chairman Martin Baily on the consumer price index

Transcript of remarks by Chief of Staff John Podesta on electronic privacy to the National Press Club

Released July 19

Transcripts of press briefings by Press Secretary Joe Lockhart

Statement by the Press Secretary on the President's decision to delay his trip to Japan

Statement by the Press Secretary on the conclusion of the Middle East Peace Summit

Announcement: Official Delegation Accompanying the President to Japan

Text of a letter from Chief of Staff John Podesta to House Speaker J. Dennis Hastert on congressional spending

Released July 20

Transcript of a press briefing by Press Secretary Joe Lockhart

Announcement: Revised Official Delegation Accompanying the President to Japan

Announcement of nomination for the Superior Court of the District of Columbia

Released July 21

Transcript of a press briefing by Press Secretary Joe Lockhart

Fact sheet: Education Initiatives

Fact sheet: Illicit Diamonds and Conflicts

Announcement: Disposition of United States and Russian Federation Weapon-Grade Plutonium

**Acts Approved
by the President**

Approved July 20

S. 148 / Public law 106-247
Neotropical Migratory Bird Conservation Act